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the Government have ordered to recover the commission from the village officers stating that they will be given the scales of pay from the date of taking over by the Government.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : A separate question may be put, Sir.

Roads between Madras City and Avadi

* 3087 *Q.*—SRI P. JEEVANANDAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether any amount, and if so, how much, was spent by the Government in relaying, repairing or laying out new roads or on any other construction between Madras City and Avadi in connection with the Avadi Session of the All-India National Congress?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : A sum of Rs. 2·01 lakhs was incurred by the Government on road works to meet the needs of heavy traffic expected in and around Avadi.

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY : May I know whether those roads are now being maintained properly?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : Yes, ordinarily these works should have been carried out but we only accelerated them in view of the emergency.

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI : Sir, is the Hon. Minister aware that out of the 500 miles of roads in the City, the Corporation was able to relay only 70 miles because of lack of financial resources? In view of that circumstance, will the Government in future at least be prepared to pay a much larger grant for roads in the main thoroughfares of the City, which are already in use?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : That is a separate question. That has no bearing on the present question.

Release of political prisoners

* 3088 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to question No. 801 on 21st February 1955 whether the Government have any proposal under consideration for the release of Sri Arakkal Kunhiraman Nambiar and Sri P. Kunhiraman, convicted political prisoners from the Cannanore Central Jail?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : No such proposal is under the consideration of the Government.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Sir, this question has come up before this House several times. In view of the fact that those who were convicted along with these prisoners were released already and in